9960 autorickshaw drivers were prosecuted for refusal to carry passengers and 1655 for misbehaviour and overcharging. Similarly, 399 taxies were prosecuted for refusal to carry passengers and 517 for misbehaviour and overcharging. In addition 159 driving licences were suspended and action was taken to suspend permits in 247 cases. In addition the following measures have been taken:—

(1) Use of decoy passengers to check refusal from time to time.

(2) Introduction of new system of stamping and punching driving licences according to which a driving licence may be suspended after they are found committing three traffic violations.

(3) Recently, a new scheme of prepaid taxi service has been introduced at Palam Airport to avoid such complaints from the general public and also to help foreigners who visit India. This service is being availed of by most of the visitors to Palam Airport and appreciated by all.

(4) The traffic Police has taken special measures at Railway Stations, New Delhi, Delhi Main and Nizamuddin by introducing 'Q' of the TSRs and taxies so that the passengers arriving there get the taxies and TSRs without any difficulties/harassments. Besides this revised fare charts are also being distributed amongst the passengers in order to avoid overcharging.

Policy for appointment agents in lieu of G.S.A.

1265. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several international airlines operating in U.S.A. follow open policy for working as agents in lieu of appointing G.S.A., if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government propose to adopt this policy in case of Air India also, and do away with the practice of appointing G.S.A.; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) According to IATA definition, a General Sales Agent is one who procures business exclusively for the appointing carrier in a single country or territory as defined in the General Sales Agreements contract. The Government are not aware of any international airline operating in USA which works as an Agent or a General Sales Agent for another airline.

(b) Air-India do not have a General Sales Agents at any point in the U.S.A.

(c) Does not arise.

Leasing of cargo aircraft and purchasing of Boeing 747

1266. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: DR. BAPU KALDATE

Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India has recently entered into two contracts viz., one relating to the lease of three cargo aircraft and other involving the purchase of a Boeing 747 Jumbo jet to replace 'Kanishka';

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether the contract was referred to the Air India Board of Directors for its approval;

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(e) the loss incurred by Air India due to delay in negotiating the contracts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) One June 15, 1985, Air India concluded an Aircraft Lease Agreement with Evergreen International Airlines for the wet lease of freighter aircraft with effect from July 1, 1985 as follows:—